

CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY

Faculty of Engineering

Minutes of Meeting No. 77.5

of the

Engineering Faculty Council

held

Thursday, 14 April 1977

Present: Professor J.C. Callaghan (Chairman); Professors Cerny, Joly, Krakow, Leung, Lindsay, Pekau, Russell, Sankar, Swamy, Xistris; Ms Jirkowsky (Library); M. Despland (Vice-Rector Academic representative); K.D. Adams (Registrar); Messrs. Gladstone, McDonald, Kotiuga (Student representatives); Prof. J.C. Giguere (Secretary)

Absent with apology: Professors Bhattacharyya, Douglass, Habashi

Visitors: Professors Fazio, Lang, Nasser, Ramamurthy; Mr. M. Bordan

Motion
77-5-1

1. Council unanimously adopted a motion to adopt the published agenda with the addition of:

8.1 Advisory Committee, Dean, Faculty of Engineering

8.2 Quorum for May meeting

Motion
77-5-2

2. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve the minutes of meeting No. 77.4. It was noted that Mr. S. Hart should have been included in the list of visitors.

3. Undergraduate Offerings in Building Engineering

The Assistant Dean noted that EUSC was not prepared to propose specific legislation at this time given that no response had yet been received from Civil Engineering concerning the accreditability issue. He had been assured by Dr. Troitsky that Civil Engineering's response would be forthcoming shortly. He noted further that the Executive Committee had suggested that the Faculty consider an integrated undergraduate-graduate programme in Civil Engineering and Building Studies leading to the simultaneous award of the B.Eng. and M.Eng. degrees. The suggestion had been discussed briefly in EUSC and EGSC. Both committees agreed that they would be prepared to look at such a proposal should it be articulated.

Professor Russell tabled Doc. 77-5-1 setting out briefly two possible alternatives. He asked if Council would be prepared to show its predisposition for one or other alternative. It was agreed that Council would be in a better position to express itself at the May meeting once the alternatives had been fully articulated. Council expects that all who are involved will act to produce a complete statement of both approaches for the May, 1977 meeting.

4. Proficiency in English

The Assistant Dean drew Council's attention to Doc. 77-4-4 which had been

circulated at the previous meeting.

Several speakers stressed the importance of English proficiency in the practice of Engineering, the lack of such proficiency amongst the engineering and other students, the inadequacy of English language training in the school system, and the need to take action in the very near future.

- Motion 5. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve in principle the recommendations set out in part 3 of Doc. 77-4-4.
77-5-3

It was agreed that the Departments and the Faculty would move to implement the spirit of the proposals as soon as possible.

6. Courses in Technical Writing

The Assistant Dean noted that this proposal had been circulated earlier. EUSC was generally in favour of such a course although it was not willing to comment at this time on the proposed course description.

It was suggested that the course be offered on a trial basis given that some members of the English Department had indicated a willingness to teach it.

- Motion 7. Council unanimously approved a motion to endorse the offering, in 77/78, on a trial basis of the course proposal in Doc. 77-3-4, it being understood that registration for the course would be voluntary, and that it would carry no credit.
77-5-4

8. It was agreed the English Department and Continuing Education would be contacted to arrange for the offering of the course.

9. Plagiarism and Cheating

The Secretary noted that the report of the ad hoc committee on Honourable Conduct was available (Doc. 77-5-2). Mr. Gladstone noted that some of the recommendations dealing with invigilation during final examinations could be implemented immediately. It was also noted that Faculty representatives on Senate should take cognizance of the recommendations given that revised regulations on cheating and plagiarism were currently before Senate. Mr. Adams noted that 50% of cheating charges laid over the last few years had been against students writing examinations in engineering courses. A document prepared by Prof. Hamblin (Doc. 77-5-3) was tabled for information.

It was agreed to take up the matter at the May meeting.

10. Student Problems - Response of Executive Committee

The Secretary informed Council that the response of the EUA to Doc. 77-4-1 had not been received. Mr. Gladstone stated that this should be available within the next few days. He noted, for the information of Council, certain elements of the likely response.

It was agreed that the Executive Committee would study the EUA response

prior to the next meeting of Council.

11. Composition of EFC

The Secretary tabled Doc. 77-5-4, the results of Council's decision with respect to Composition of EFC and its committees. He noted that the quorum rule had not been passed for the new composition.

- Motion 12. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve Doc. 77-5-4 as reflecting Council's decisions during meeting No. 77-4, as well as Council's wish with respect to a quorum.

13. Election of Supervisory Committee for Tenure Committee Election

- Motion 77-5-6 Council adopted a motion to appoint Professors Lindsay, Suen, Troitsky and Xistris as the Supervisory Committee for the Tenure Committee election (1 opposed).

- Motion 77-5-7 14. Council unanimously adopted a motion to appoint Professor Xistris as Chairman of the Supervisory Committee.

15. Graduate Academic Regulations

The Assistant Dean presented EGSC's recommendations (Doc. 77-5-5). Professor Sankar informed Council that his department had several objections to the proposed regulations, and would prefer an approach stressing the B average as the basic criterion for acceptable standing. The Mechanical Engineering Departmental Council had therefore voted unanimously to reject Doc. 77-5-5. Professor Swamy noted that the Electrical Engineering Departmental Council had unanimously approved the recommendations. Professors Pekau and Russell noted that the Civil Engineering Department and the Centre for Building Studies supported the recommendations.

- Motion 77-5-8 16. Council adopted a motion to approve Doc. 75-5-5. (8 for; 4 against)

17. Sequential Course Pairs

The Assistant Dean informed Council that in accordance with the 76/77 undergraduate calendar, it was necessary for Council to approve sequential course pairs for 76/77. EUSC's recommendation is to approve ENG N361 and ENG N461 as the only sequential course pair for 76/77.

18. Council unanimously adopted a motion to approve, for 76/77, ENG N361 and ENG N461 as the sole sequential course pair for the purposes of item 16.2.22(3) of the 76/77 undergraduate calendar.

19. Graduate Prizes

The Assistant Dean noted that there had been considerable debate at the May 1976 meeting of Council with respect to the criteria to be used for selecting candidates for Departmental prizes. It was agreed that the Assistant Dean would prepare specific recommendations for the May meeting of Senate.

20. Pre-registration

Professor Xistris noted that the number of options now open to students has made pre-registration counselling extremely difficult. The problem is compounded by the frequency of curriculum changes in the B.Eng. programme.

- Motion 21. Council defeated a motion to require the Dean, the Assistant Dean and
77-5-9 members of EUSC to be solely responsible for pre-registering students.

4 in favour; 5 against

22. Advisory Committee, Dean, Faculty of Engineering

Chairman informed Council that after recent consultation with members of the Engineering Faculty, the Vice-Rector (Academic) will be recommending to the Board of Governors on the establishment of an advisory Committee to recommend on the appointment of a Dean of Engineering. The committee will begin its work in May.

He drew Council's attention to Doc. 75-5-6, which sets out the proposed composition of the advisory committee. He then asked the Secretary to read a recent letter from the Vice-Rector (Academic) (Doc. 75-5-7) where it is noted that due to the reorganization of EFC resulting from the creation of the Centre for Building Studies, it was necessary to alter the proposed composition of the advisory committee. Members from categories 3-6 (as per Doc. 77-5-6) will now be appointed by Engineering Faculty Council, though not necessarily from Council; the member from category 8 will be appointed by the Computer Science Committee of Senate. All members must be appointed by 25 April 1977.

- Motion 23. Council unanimously adopted a motion to appoint members from categories 3
77-5-10 and 4 (as per Doc. 77-5-6) using the procedure set out in Doc. 75-98-5, it being understood that nominees for these positions will be full-time faculty in the Departments of Civil, Electrical or Mechanical Engineering or the Centre for Building Studies, and that the selection of the members will be carried out by a ballot of the full-time faculty of these Departments and Centre.

- Motion 24. Council unanimously adopted a motion to request the Graduate Student
77-5-11 Association to recommend by 23 April on the appointment of the member from category 6, and to appoint the person so recommended to the advisory committee.

25. Mr. Gladstone noted that it would be difficult to canvass the EUA and the student body prior to 25 April. He indicated that he was prepared to present two names to Council for immediate consideration. It was generally felt that greater opportunity should be given to nominate student members.

- Motion 26. Council considered a motion to proceed with the appointment of the members
77-5-12 from category 5 (as per Doc. 77-5-6) as follows:

- (a) Nominations would be called in the same manner for members from categories 3 and 4. Any student registered in a Faculty

programme would be eligible for nomination.

- (b) Members would be elected from amongst the nominees by secret ballot of members of Council. The winners of the election will be Council's appointees to the Committee.

Motion 27. Council adopted a motion to amend Motion 77-5-12 in that there must be
77-5-13 a minimum of six nominees (1 opposed).

28. Council adopted Motion 77-5-12 as amended by Motion 77-5-13 (1 opposed).